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U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

B4

FILE: WAC 01 253 61976 Office: CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER Date: AUG 10 2004

IN RE: Petitioner:
Beneficiary:

PETITION: Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker as a Multinational Executive or Manager Pursuant to
Section 203(b)(1)(C) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1153(b)(1)(C)

ON BEHALF OF PETITIONER:

INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office in your case. All documents have been returned to the office that originally decided your case. Any further inquiry must be made to that office.


Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The Director, California Service Center, denied the employment-based visa petition. The Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) dismissed a subsequently filed appeal. The matter is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on a motion to reopen and reconsider. The motion will be rejected as untimely filed.

In order to properly file a motion, the regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(1)(i) provides that the affected party must file the motion within 30 days of service of the unfavorable decision. If the decision was mailed, the appeal must be filed within 33 days. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 103.5a(b). The failure to file before this period expires may be excused at the discretion of the AAO where it is demonstrated that the delay was reasonable and beyond the control of the petitioner. 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(1)(i).

In accordance with 8 C.F.R. § 103.2(a)(7)(i), an application received in a Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) office shall be stamped to show the time and date of actual receipt, if it is properly signed, executed, and accompanied by the correct fee. For calculating the date of filing, the appeal shall be regarded as properly filed on the date that it is so stamped by the service center or district office.

The record indicates that the AAO issued the decision on May 7, 2003. According to the date stamp on the Form I-290B Notice of Appeal, it was received by CIS on June 12, 2003, or 36 days after the decision was issued. Accordingly, the motion was untimely filed.

On motion, the petitioner has not requested that the failure to file the motion within the 30-day time period be excused.

The AAO notes further, that in this matter, counsel did not provide any new evidence or cite any pertinent precedential law on issues that had not already been addressed by the AAO. Specifically, a motion to reopen must provide new facts and be supported by affidavits or other documentary evidence. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(2). The declarations that have been provided on motion are not affidavits as they were not sworn to or affirmed by the declarant before an officer authorized to administer oaths or affirmations who has, having confirmed the declarant's identity, administered the requisite oath or affirmation. *See Black's Law Dictionary* 58 (7th Ed., West 1999). Nor, in lieu of having been signed before an officer authorized to administer oaths or affirmations, do they contain the requisite statement, permitted by Federal law, that the signers, in signing the statements, certify the truth of the statements, under penalty of perjury. 28 U.S.C. § 1746. Such unsworn statements made in support of a motion are not evidence and thus, as is the case with the arguments of counsel, are not entitled to any evidentiary weight. *See INS v. Phinpathya*, 464 U.S. 183, 188-89 n.6 (1984); *Matter of Ramirez-Sanchez*, 17 I&N Dec. 503 (BIA 1980).

As the appeal was untimely filed, the appeal must be rejected.

ORDER: The appeal is rejected.